

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
LAFAYETTE PARKING COMMISSION
October 15, 2007
11:00 am**

ATTENDANCE

COMMISSIONERS: Cindy Murray, Don Teder, Bob Carpenter, Ed Chosnek,
City Attorney

STAFF: Dennis Carson, Tom Van Horn, Jennifer Criblez, Nancy Hendricks

GUESTS Marla L Halsema, 510 S. 15th Street
David Whipple, 117 N. 5th Street
Norman Klinker, 108 S. 14th Street
Denise Morgan, 114 S 14th Street
Carlena Phillips, 144 Point East
Marjorie Strong, 102 S 14th Street

President Cindy Murray opened the meeting of the Lafayette Parking Commission.

Approval of Minutes

Don Teder moved to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2007 meeting of the Lafayette Parking Commission. Bob Carpenter seconded. The motion passed.

Request for changes to the on-street parking at 102 South 14th Street

Marjorie Strong, the petitioner, wrote a letter to the Commission requesting two handicap spaces in front of her house. Her handicap prevents use of the steps from the drive way, and a frequently visiting handicapped sister must also use the front entrance.

Don Teder asked if there would be any inconvenience to the neighborhood if this request were to be granted. Three of the petitioner's neighbors spoke in favor of the handicap spaces for that site, stating that there are plenty of parking spaces in the neighborhood and the restrictions would not be an imposition.

Cindy Murray clarified with Tom Van Horn on the procedure for reinstating and/or removing handicapped spaces where the city had granted handicap status.

Tom Van Horn emphasized that contact with the original requestor came after a two year period and included investigation for continuing need.

Don Teder moved to approve making two handicap spaces in front of 102 South 14th Street. Bob Carpenter seconded. The motion passed.

Request for changes to the parking at 510 S 15th Street

Looking to find a non-confronting solution to multiple-use of parking spaces at a duplex apartment, Marla Halsema petitioned the Parking Commission for a handicap space on the street. This will allow easier access to her apartment, especially in the winter. After

several attempts to resolve the issue with her landlord and the neighbors, she feels that the on-street handicap parking will make things better for the neighbors as well as provide an improvement to her needs.

Bob Carpenter moved to approve making a handicap space in front of 510 South 15th Street. Don Teder seconded. The motion passed.

Public Comment

Cindy Murray asked for additional comments from the public.

Dave Whipple of 117 N 5th Street (a resident of the Lahr Apartments) read a prepared statement detailing the parking difficulties of downtown residents. According to Mr. Whipple most of the downtown residents frequent the downtown businesses and make an important economic contribution. Therefore, his statement concluded that more consideration should be made for residential parking.

Mr. Whipple included that he had received numerous tickets; some of which were as a result of moving his car to another spot in the same block. He felt that the ordinance which prohibits re-parking his car should either be posted on the parking signs, or that the ordinance should be rescinded.

Dennis Carson, Ed Chosnek, and each of the Parking Commission members explained the reasoning for the ordinance, the responsibilities of the downtown residents needing parking, the accommodations that have already been made for those residents, and listed the many conflicting needs of all citizens. Ed Chosnek summarized and concluded for the Commission that the existing ordinances and policies downtown, though imperfect, serve the common good of the city.

Adjournment

Don Teder moved to adjourn. Bob Carpenter seconded. The meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Hendricks
Recording Secretary

Bob Carpenter, Parking Commission Secretary